

Federal Property Management Regulations

§ 101-29.221

§ 101-29.212 Tailoring.

Tailoring is a process by which the individual requirements (sections, paragraphs or sentences) or product descriptions are evaluated to determine the extent to which each requirement is most suitable for a specific acquisition and the modification of these requirements, where necessary, to ensure that each document invoked achieves and optimal balance between operational needs and costs.

§ 101-29.213 Commercial product.

A *commercial product* is any item, component, or system available from stock or regular production that is sold in substantial quantities to the general public at established catalog or market prices (for definition of terms, see FPR 1-3.807.1).

§ 101-29.214 Commercial-type product.

A *commercial-type product* is defined as:

(a) Any product similar to the commercial product but modified or altered in compliance with specified Government requirements and, as such is usually sold only to the Government and not through the normal catalog or retail outlets;

(b) Any product similar to a commercial product that is either assembled or manufactured in accordance with specifically stated Government requirements and sold only to the Government and not to the general public; or

(c) A commercial product identified or marked differently than the commercial product normally sold to the general public.

§ 101-29.215 Departmental specification or standard.

A *departmental specification or standard* is a specification or standard prepared by, and of primary interest to, a particular Federal agency, but which may be used by other Federal agencies.

§ 101-29.216 Department of Defense Index of Specifications and Standards (DODISS).

The *Department of Defense Index of Specifications and Standards* is a Department of Defense (DoD) publication of unclassified Federal and military specifications and standards, related stand-

ardization documents, and voluntary standards that are used by DoD.

§ 101-29.217 Military specification or standard.

A *military specification or standard* is a specification or standard issued by the Department of Defense and listed in the DODISS.

§ 101-29.218 Voluntary standards.

Voluntary standards are established generally by private sector bodies and available for use by any person or organization, private or governmental. The term includes what are commonly referred to as "industry standards" as well as "consensus standards," but does not include professional standards of personal conduct, institutional codes of ethics, private standards of individual firms, or standards mandated by law such as those contained in the United States Pharmacopeia as referenced in 21 U.S.C. 351.

§ 101-29.219 Index of Federal Specifications, Standards and Commercial Item Descriptions.

The *Index of Federal Specification, Standards and Commercial Item Descriptions* is a GSA publication that lists Federal specifications, qualified products lists, standards, and commercial item descriptions.

§ 101-29.220 Market research and analysis.

Market research and analysis is a process used to ascertain and analyze the range and quality of available commercial products to determine whether they meet user needs and to identify the market practices of firms engaged in producing, distributing, and supporting the products.

§ 101-29.221 Federal Specifications, Standards and Commercial Item Description Program (Federal Standardization Program).

The *Federal Specifications, Standards and Commercial Item Description Program* is a standardization program developed under authority of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (63 Stat. 377) in

consonance with the Defense Cataloging and Standardization Act (Sections 2451-2456, title 10, U.S.C. chapter 145), managed by the General Services Administration, for the purpose of coordinating civilian and military standardization functions to avoid unnecessary duplication. Within the program, procedures and controls govern the development, coordination, approval, issuance, indexing, management, and maintenance of product descriptions in the Federal series (Federal specifications, Federal standards, and CID's) that define commercial products and products that have high potential for common Federal agency use.

Subpart 101-29.3—Responsibilities

§ 101-29.301 General Services Administration.

§ 101-29.301-1 Policies and procedures.

The Administrator of General Services is responsible for establishing policies and procedures, in coordination with the other agencies, for the preparation, coordination, approval, issuance, and maintenance of product descriptions in the Federal series of specifications, standards, and CID's.

§ 101-29.301-2 Federal Standardization Handbook.

The Assistant Administrator for Federal Supply and Services will issue and maintain on a current basis a "Federal Standardization Handbook." The Federal Standardization Handbook sets forth operating procedures and applicable definitions used in the development of Federal product descriptions under the Assigned Agency Plan described therein. Federal agencies shall adhere to the provisions of the handbook in the development and coordination of Federal product descriptions.

§ 101-29.301-3 Availability of Federal product descriptions.

The Assistant Administrator for Federal Supply and Services will promulgate and maintain on a current basis the "Index of Federal Specifications, Standards and Commercial Item Descriptions." The Index lists Federal product descriptions which have been printed and distributed, including

those which are mandatory for use, and identifies the sources from which these documents may be obtained. Supplements to the Index indicate the dates on which the use of new Federal product descriptions become mandatory. The Department of Defense also lists Federal product descriptions in the "Department of Defense Index of Specifications and Standards."

§ 101-29.301-4 Periodic review of Federal product descriptions.

The Assistant Administrator for Federal Supply and Services is responsible for establishing a program for periodically reviewing Federal product descriptions to determine whether revision, cancellation or reauthorization (validation) is appropriate. The frequency of the review shall be based on the degree of change in the technology of the product covered by the description and shall be conducted at least once every 5 years.

§ 101-29.302 Other Federal agencies.

Heads of other Federal agencies are responsible for adhering to the policies and procedures established by GSA for management and control of Federal product descriptions and for the use of these documents in acquisition as applicable.

§ 101-29.303 All Federal executive agencies.

(a) Federal executive agencies shall evaluate the effectiveness of their Federal product descriptions by:

(1) Establishing a system for obtaining user critiques of products acquired using those descriptions; and

(2) Establish a method whereby the preparing activity can locate and communicate with the users.

(b) The system shall encourage users to communicate with acquisition organizations regarding:

(1) The user's essential requirements;

(2) Product suitability for use in the user's environment;

(3) Product failures and deficiencies;

(4) The needs of the logistics system; and

(5) Suggestions for corrective actions.